

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: <i>Powlette</i>)	Art Unit:
)	
Serial No.:)	Examiner:
)	
Filed: 4/30/01 as a divisional of serial no.)	
09/172,191 filed 10/13/98)	
)	
For: <i>System And Method For Annotating &</i>)	
<i>Capturing Chart Data</i>)	
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the present application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the title to read:

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ANNOTATING & CAPTURING CHART DATA

Please insert the following text on page 1, before FIELD OF THE INVENTION:

-- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is a divisional application of serial no. 09/172,191 filed October 13, 1998 entitled *System And Method For Permitting a Software Routine Having Restricted Local Access to Utilize Remote Resources to Generate Locally Usable Data Structure*, which is hereby incorporated by reference. --

Please cancel pages 19 through 87 (Appendix A).

Please insert the following text on page 1, before FIELD OF THE INVENTION

-- CROSS REFERENCE TO MICROFICHE APPENDIX

Appendix A, which forms part of this disclosure and is incorporated by reference herein, is a microfiche appendix consisting of 1 sheet of microfiche having a total of 58 frames.

Microfiche Appendix A is a list of computer programs and related data in an embodiment of the present invention, which is described more completely below. --

Please replace the text of the ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE with the following:

-- A program is disclosed for permitting a user to directly annotate and capture data associated with a Java™ based applet application running within a conventional browser program. The program addresses sand-box local security restrictions otherwise attendant with such applet by exploiting non-local system resources that are accessible to such types of applications. --

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1 – 68.

Please add the following new claims (69 - 88):

69. (New) A computer program comprising:
- a first routine for presenting chart data in graphical form within a window on a display for viewing by a user of a computing system executing the computer program; and
 - a second routine for permitting said user to add visual annotations to said chart data, said visual annotations including at least one of the following for said chart data: trend lines and/or descriptive labels and/or calculations; and
 - a third routine for permitting said user to capture said visual annotations in permanent form usable by said computing system;
- wherein said first, second and third routines operate entirely within a browser program adapted for permitting said computing system to interact with internet computer servers.

70. (New) The computer program of claim 69, wherein said chart data includes historical price information related to a first commodity.
71. (New) The computer program of claim 70, wherein historical price information related to a second commodity is overlaid with said historical price information related to the first commodity.
72. (New) The computer program of claim 69, wherein said first, second and third routines are implemented as java™ applets.
73. (New) The computer program of claim 69, wherein trend lines can be drawn by said user using a computer mouse so as to connect two items of said chart data.
74. (New) The computer program of claim 69, wherein said visual annotations are captured in a form suitable for printing or storing as a data file within said computing system, even if said first, second and/or third routines do not have access to data file resources within said computing system.

75. (New) A method of annotating Java™ -based charts comprising the steps of:
- retrieving chart data from a remote server system using a Java™ based applet program executing within a browser program on a local file system;
 - wherein said Java based applet program has access to I/O and/or storage resources of said remote server system, but not of said local file system;
 - presenting said chart data under control of said Java™ based applet in graphical form in a display window on said local system for viewing by a user; and
 - receiving annotation data under control of said Java™ based applet, said annotation data being specified by said user interacting with said chart data in said display window;
 - wherein said annotation data includes at least one of the following for said chart data: trend lines and/or descriptive labels and/or calculations; and
 - transmitting at least said annotation data to said remote server system in response to said user requesting capture of said annotation data;
 - converting said annotation data and said chart data into a modified data file at said remote computing system, which modified data file is accessible to said Java™ based applet;
 - opening said modified data file using said Java™ based applet and browser program so that said user can display, store and/or output said data file using said local file system.
76. (New) The method of claim 75, further including a step of compressing said annotation data before it is transmitted to said remote server system.
77. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein said annotation data is compressed into a GIF format.
78. (New) The method of claim 75, wherein said annotation data is specified by said user using a computer mouse to modify said chart data.
79. (New) The method of claim 75, wherein said chart data includes historical stock prices for one or more securities.
80. (New) The method of claim 75, wherein said annotation data is initially captured within a window display buffer of said local file system, but cannot be directly output to said local file system because of restrictions on said Java™ based applet.
81. (New) The method of claim 75, further including a step of executing a script program at said remote server system to convert and store said modified data file.
82. (New) The method of claim 75, wherein said modified data file is opened within a second display window separate from said display window.

83. (New) A method of manipulating chart data presented within a window controlled by a browser program running on a computer system, said method comprising the steps of:
- (a) presenting the chart data in graphical form within the window on a display for viewing by a user of the computer system; and
 - (b) adding visual annotations to the chart data under control of said user, said visual annotations including at least one of the following for said chart data: trend lines and/or descriptive labels and/or calculations; and
 - (c) capturing said visual annotations in permanent form usable by said computing system; performing all of said steps (a) through (c) entirely within the browser program.
84. (New) The method of claim 83, wherein said chart data includes historical price information related to a first commodity.
85. (New) The method of claim 84, further including a step of forming composite chart data by overlaying historical price information related to a second commodity along with said historical price information related to the first commodity.
86. (New) The method of claim 83, wherein said steps (a) through (c) are implemented by java™ applets.
87. (New) The method of claim 83, wherein trend lines can be drawn by said user using a computer mouse so as to connect two items of said chart data.
88. (New) The method of claim 83, further including a step (d): printing or storing as a data file within said computing system, even if said steps (a) through (c) are performed without having access to data file resources within said computing system.

Remarks

The specification has been amended to address certain required formalities, but no new subject matter has been added. A microfiche appendix for the pages canceled (19 – 87) was already provided for in the parent application. In the event a duplicate copy is required for the present filing, Applicant can provide the same.

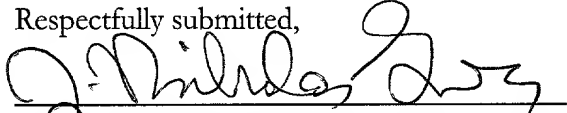
Claims 1 – 68 are canceled, as they were already prosecuted in the parent application. New claims 69 – 88 are pending, and are based on claims presented in the parent application that were not elected in response to a restriction requirement issued October 26, 2000 (paper No. 6). These claims relate to those features of the present invention permitting a user to interact with and annotate online charts, such as, for example, those created by Java based applets. Support for such claims is provided in numerous areas of the original disclosure, including pages 13, ll. 14+; page 16, ll. 21+, Figs. 2 and 3, and particularly the trendlines 330 shown in such figures. In addition to free-hand drawings, these annotations can also include features added automatically by the program under user control, such as labels, calculations, etc. *See* page 17, ll. 1 – 10.

As mentioned in the specification, widespread use of the Java™ programming language and associated applet applications have been hindered by the fact that their local system security restrictions prevent many otherwise useful features from being implemented. Applicant has solved such problem, and thus imparted useful types of functionality to such applications. For instance, in an applet based charting application operating within a browser, it is extremely useful to be able to draw (or overlay) customized trendlines onto a stock chart, so that the user can visualize/capture the expected future performance of such security.

Since it is believed that no prior art systems permit a user to directly annotate such types of charts from within a conventional web browser, the undersigned submits that the present claims plainly present patentable subject matter. Accordingly, early allowance of the same is earnestly solicited.

Date: April 30, 2001

Respectfully submitted,


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I hereby certify that the foregoing is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, postage prepaid, to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, this 30th day of April, 2001.